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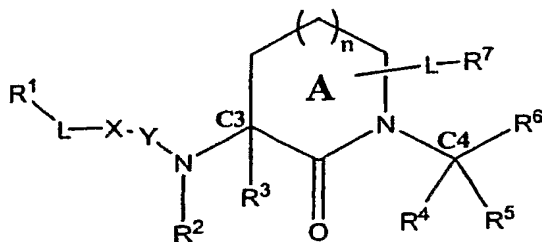
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(54) Title: LACTAMS AS CONFORMATIONALLY CONSTRAINED PEPTIDOMIMETIC INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to inhibitors of post-
proline cleaving enzyme, such as inhibitors of dipeptidyl peptidase
IV, as well as pharmaceutical compositions thereof, and methods for
using such inhibitors. In particular, the inhibitors of the present in-
vention incorporate a lactam ring in the backbone of the inhibitors.
The compounds of the present invention can have a better therapeu-
tic index, owing in part to reduced toxicity and/or improved speci-
ficity for the targeted protease.

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